



Art. Unit
Examiner
Serial No.
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Inventors

Title

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: 1621
: A. Siegel
: 09/648,248
: August 25, 2000
: Masashi Kato
: Yasuharu Kato
: Koichi Okada
: METHOD FOR PRODUCING
: AROMATIC COMPOUND
: ISOMERS



22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket: 1382-00

Dated: May 14, 2002

A12
#618
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AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

JUN 07 2002

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In response to the Official Action dated November 15, 2001, using clean copies of the Claims and also a marked-up version of such, kindly amend the Application as follows:

In the Claims (Clean copy as amended)

1. (Amended) A method for producing an aromatic compound isomer substituted with alkyl group(s) and/or halogen atom(s), through adsorptive separation by the use of a zeolite-containing adsorbent and a desorbent, wherein the desorbent is, after having been processed for removing impurities from it by a method selected from distillation, purging, or absorption to a solid absorbent to achieve a level below 1,000 ppm by weight, supplied to the adsorptive separation step.

7. (Amended) A method for producing an aromatic compound isomer substituted with alkyl group(s) and/or halogen atom(s), through adsorptive separation by the use of a zeolite-containing adsorbent and a desorbent, wherein the desorbent is, after having been processed for removing oxygen-containing or high boiling point compound impurities from it by a method selected from distillation, purging, or absorption to a solid absorbent to